

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT : Colin BROWN
SERIAL NO. : 10/572,823
CUSTOMER NO. : 27388
FILED : September 22, 2006
FOR : Device
ART UNIT : 1744
EXAMINER : Sean Everett Conley

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

SIR:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449.

I. Timeliness, Fees and Certifications in lieu of Fees

A. This information disclosure statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the application, or within three months of entry into the national stage, or before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits. Pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.97(b), consideration of this information disclosure statement does not require a fee or a statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(e). However, should the Assistant Commissioner determine that a fee is, in fact, due, the Assistant Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

B. This information disclosure statement is being filed after the period in A above, but before the mailing of either a final action or a notice of allowance. Pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.97(c), consideration of this information disclosure statement requires a fee or a statement under

37 CFR § 1.97(e):

1. The Assistant Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

2. Applicants hereby state that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

3. Applicants hereby state that no item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign patent application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR § 1.56 more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

C. This information disclosure statement is being filed after the period specified in B above, but on or before the payment of the issue fee. Pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.97(d), consideration of this information disclosure statement requires a petition, which Applicants hereby request, and payment of the petition fee, which is set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17(i), and which the Assistant Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 14-1263. Consideration of this information disclosure statement also requires a statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(e):

1. Applicants hereby state that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

2. Applicants hereby state that no item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign patent application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable

inquiry, no item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR § 1.56 more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

II. Copies of Listed References

- A. Copies of all references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are being supplied. Copies of U.S. patents are not included pursuant to Pre-OG Notice dated July 11, 2003.
- B. Copies of all references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 have already been supplied during the prosecution of prior application Serial No. ____, filed ____, from which the present application claims priority pursuant to 35 USC § 120. Therefore, pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.98(d), copies of the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are not now being supplied.
- C. This application is a PCT national stage application, all references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 were cited in the international search report, and PCT/EP2005/056416 indicates that both the international search report and the copies of the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are in this national stage file. Copies of all references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are being supplied. Copies of U.S. patents are not included pursuant to Pre-OG Notice dated July 11, 2003.

III. Concise Statement of Relevance

- A. All references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are in the English language, and, therefore, a concise statement of relevance is not required.
- B. Most references listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08 are referred to in the specification, which indicates the degree of relevance. The rest of the references are listed in the German Search Report which also indicates the degree of relevance and is enclosed. The Examiner will note that the Abstracts of the non-English language references are also enclosed.
- C. This application is a PCT national stage application, all references listed on the

attached Form PTO-1449 were cited in the international search report, and a copy of that search report, which indicates the degree of relevance found by the International Search Authority, is attached.

D. All listed on the attached Form PTO 1449 were cited during the prosecution of the prior application indicated above under II.B.

IV. Additional Information

A. In addition to the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, Applicants wish to bring to the attention of the Examiner the following abandoned or co-pending U.S. patent applications:

[Pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.98(a)(2)(iii), copies of these applications are not being submitted.]

B. In addition of the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, Applicants wish to bring to the attention of the Examiner the information provided on the attached sheet.

Consideration of the foregoing in relation to this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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